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Chairman: Mr. Hunte (President of the General Assembly) ..... (Saint Lucia)

Contents

Organization of the fifty-eighth regular session of the General Assembly, adoption of the agenda and allocation of items: memorandum by the Secretary-General (*continued*)

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The meeting was called to order at 3.05 p.m.

Organization of the fifty-eighth regular session of the General Assembly, adoption of the agenda and allocation of items: memorandum by the Secretary-General (*continued*) (A/BUR/58/1 and Corr.1 and Add.1)

Section IV: Adoption of the agenda (*continued*)

Paragraph 47 (*Inclusion of items*) (*continued*)

Item 164 (*continued*)

1. **The Chairman** informed the Committee that it had been proposed, following informal consultations, that item 164 should be consolidated with item 23. The new item would be entitled "Sport for peace and development" and would have two sub-items: sub-item (a) "Building a peaceful and better world through sport and the Olympic ideal" and sub-item (b) "International Year of Sport and Physical Education". He took it that the Committee wished to recommend to the General Assembly the inclusion of the new item 23 with sub-items (a) and (b) in the agenda of the fifth-eighth session. Item 164 would be deleted.

2. *It was so decided.*

Item 166 (*continued*)

3. **The Chairman** invited the Committee to resume its consideration of item 166, entitled "Question of the representation of the Republic of China (Taiwan) in the United Nations".

4. *At the invitation of the Chairman, Mr. Aliyev (Azerbaijan), Mr. Taranda (Belarus), Mr. Zinsou (Benin), Mr. Santiago (Brazil), Mr. Sambath (Cambodia), Mr. Aboud (Comoros), Mr. Requeijo Gual (Cuba), Mr. Villanueva (Dominican Republic), Mr. Meléndez-Barahona (El Salvador), Mr. Moungara-Moussotsi (Gabon), Mr. Adamia (Georgia), Ms. Kartali-Papadopoulou (Greece), Mr. Stanislaus (Grenada), Mr. Briz Gutiérrez (Guatemala), Ms. Critchlow (Guyana), Mr. Jenie (Indonesia), Mr. Toktomushev (Kyrgyzstan), Mr. Diab (Lebanon), Ms. Moteetee (Lesotho), Mr. Egledi (Libyan Arab Jamahiriya), Mr. Bonavia (Malta), Mr. Diallo (Mauritania), Mr. Gansukh (Mongolia), Mr. Shiweva (Namibia), Mr. Sevilla Somoza (Nicaragua), Mr. Ononye (Nigeria), Mr. Khalid (Pakistan), Ms. Morgan-Moss (Panama), Mr. Cujba (Republic of Moldova), Mr. Motoc (Romania), Mr. Richardson (Saint Kitts and Nevis), Ms. Ferrari (Saint Vincent and the Grenadines), Mr. Davies (Sierra Leone), Mr. Guterres (Timor-Leste), Mr. Koubaa (Tunisia), Mr. Sopoaga (Tuvalu), Mr. Beyendeza (Uganda), Mr. Kulyk (Ukraine), Ms. Mulamula (United Republic of Tanzania), Mr. Mamadjanov (Uzbekistan), Mr. Musambachime (Zambia) and Mr. Vengesa (Zimbabwe) took places at the Committee table.*

5. **Mr. Ononye** (Nigeria) reiterated his delegation's support for resolution 2758 (XXVI), by which the General Assembly had decided to recognize the representatives of the Government of the People's Republic of China as the only legitimate representatives of China to the United Nations. The issue of the representation of Taiwan in the United Nations was essentially a matter of its recognition as a sovereign State. That question should be settled politically, diplomatically and peacefully by the two parties in question, guided by the Charter of the United Nations and by the rules of international law and civilized conduct. His delegation could not therefore support the inclusion of the item in the agenda of the fifty-eighth session.

6. **Ms. Kartali-Papadopoulou** (Greece) said that the validity of resolution 2758 (XXVI), which had provided a political, legal and procedural solution to the issue of China's representation in the United Nations, should be respected. Her Government had always supported the principles of sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity and therefore opposed the inclusion in the agenda of the item in question.

7. **Mr. Davies** (Sierra Leone) said that his Government strongly supported the "one-China" principle and vehemently opposed the inclusion of the question of Taiwan's representation in the United Nations in the agenda. Its position on the matter had not changed and was unlikely to do so. Members States should abide by the Charter, the resolutions of the General Assembly, including resolution 2758 (XXVI), and the principles of respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States and non-interference in their internal affairs. Accordingly, they should discourage any attempt to divide China.

8. **Mr. Villanueva Callot** (Dominican Republic) reiterated his delegation's support for the initiative to

include item 166 in the agenda. The United Nations could not exclude a nation like the Republic of China on Taiwan, which had a population of over 23 million inhabitants, maintained diplomatic relations with 26 sovereign States and complied with all the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations. A new era called for a new vision in resolving regional conflicts. The Republic of China on Taiwan nurtured the legitimate aspiration of helping to strengthen peace within a system of harmonious coexistence governed by international law. In the spirit of the Charter, Member States must give it that opportunity.

9. **Mr. Santiago** (Brazil) said that resolution 2758 (XXVI) had settled definitively the issue of China's representation in the United Nations. His delegation therefore rejected the inclusion of the proposed item.

10. **Mr. Sopoaga** (Tuvalu) said that the exclusion of the Republic of China on Taiwan from the United Nations violated one of the Organization's founding principles, that of universality, denied its people their right to representation and prevented them from contributing to and benefiting from efforts to promote peace and security in the world and combat such threats as international terrorism and disease. The Government of the Republic of China on Taiwan enjoyed full sovereignty over Taiwan's territory and natural resources and was solely responsible for the conduct of its foreign relations. The international community could not continue to ignore that reality. His delegation therefore supported the inclusion of item 166 in the agenda.

11. **Mr. Briz Gutiérrez** (Guatemala) said that Guatemala which maintained full diplomatic, trade and cultural relations with the Republic of China on Taiwan, had always been concerned about the situation of its 23 million inhabitants, whose aspirations to be represented in multilateral bodies had not been met. Nonetheless, as stated in its letter of 10 January 1997 to the Security Council (S/1997/23), his delegation felt duty bound to respect the provisions of General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI). It trusted that the differences between the Republic of China on Taiwan and the People's Republic of China would be resolved to the satisfaction of both parties and the larger membership of the United Nations, and was prepared to support any United Nations decision or initiative to lay the groundwork for that process.

12. **Ms. Ferrari** (Saint Vincent and the Grenadines) said that, notwithstanding the meaningless mantra of one China, the Republic of China on Taiwan continued to exist as a sovereign State. The Government of the People's Republic of China had never had jurisdiction over Taiwan and did not represent or speak for the interests of its people. Taiwan was an exemplary global citizen and one of the few democracies in Asia. Her delegation therefore fully supported its efforts to become a member of the United Nations. It was regrettable that the question continued to be kept off the agenda, since United Nations membership for Taiwan would surely ease the tensions simmering across the Taiwan Strait and facilitate dialogue between the two countries and the attainment of a peaceful, just and equitable settlement.

13. **Mr. Koubaa** (Tunisia) said that his Government wished to reiterate its respect for the "one-China" principle and for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the People's Republic of China, in conformity with General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI).

14. **Mr. Diab** (Lebanon) said that the question of the representation of Taiwan in the United Nations had been settled by the General Assembly in resolution 2758 (XXVI). The inclusion of the proposed item in the agenda would run counter to the resolution and the principle of respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity, as well as constituting gross interference in the internal affairs of China. His delegation therefore opposed it.

15. **Mr. Cujba** (Republic of Moldova) said that he wished to associate himself with those speakers who had expressed support for the position of the Government of the People's Republic of China. Resolution 2758 (XXVI) had provided a political, legal and procedural solution to the question of China's representation in the United Nations. Respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity was a fundamental principle of the Charter. Accordingly, his delegation supported the "one-China" policy and rejected the inclusion of the proposed item in the agenda.

16. **Mr. Stanislaus** (Grenada) said that the populations of the People's Republic of China and the Republic of China on Taiwan had a common ancestry and history and were striving to attain a common destiny. However, the reality of the current situation was that the Republic of China on Taiwan existed as a

sovereign State, with its own constitution, laws, policies, passports, currency and armed forces. In addition, it was the world's 12th largest exporter of manufactured goods and the 19th largest economy in terms of gross national product. Yet it was not a member of the United Nations. It was time to correct that anomaly and to right the wrong committed in 1971. His delegation supported Taiwan's right to be represented in the Organization, without prejudice to the People's Republic of China.

17. **Mr. Lamba** (Malawi) said that Taiwan's exclusion from the United Nations called into question the principle of universality. His Government would respect any peaceful agreement between the People's Republic of China and Taiwan based on justice, fairness and mutual respect. However, as a vibrant democracy with 23 million people and a thriving economy, Taiwan should be able to participate in the work of the United Nations and its agencies. The General Assembly should therefore give urgent consideration to the issue of Taiwan's restoration to the Organization's membership.

18. **Ms. Mulamula** (United Republic of Tanzania) said that, while the debate on the inclusion of the proposed item had become an annual ritual, the issue of China's representation in the United Nations had been settled by resolution 2758 (XXVI). That resolution was as valid now as it had been at the time of its adoption. Efforts to scuttle it would serve only to undermine the resolutions of the General Assembly. Since respect for international law was of paramount importance in safeguarding peace and security, her delegation wished to appeal to the Committee not to entertain the request before it.

19. **Mr. Taranda** (Belarus) said that Belarus respected the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the People's Republic of China. It could not therefore support the inclusion of the proposed item in the agenda.

20. **Ms. Morgan-Moss** (Panama) said that the situation between the Republic of China on Taiwan and the People's Republic of China should be resolved peacefully, in accordance with the principles of the Charter. The United Nations would provide a forum for respectful and productive dialogue to that end.

21. **Mr. Richardson** (Saint Kitts and Nevis) said that the peoples of Africa, Asia, the Caribbean and the Pacific had long aspired to be represented in the United Nations. Their wish had been granted, and he saw no reason why the 23 million people of Taiwan should be treated differently. They had a right to voice their concerns in the international arena. His Government therefore supported the inclusion of item 166 in the agenda.

22. **Ms. Moteetee** (Lesotho) said that her delegation opposed the inclusion of the proposed item. It agreed that the question of China's representation in the United Nations had been settled by resolution 2758 (XXVI). It supported the "one-China" policy and regarded the issue of Taiwan as an internal one.

23. **Mr. Kulyk** (Ukraine) said that the Government of the People's Republic of China was the only legitimate government of China, of which Taiwan was an integral part. The issue had been resolved by resolution 2758 (XXVI) and required no further debate. His delegation therefore opposed the inclusion of the proposed item in the agenda.

24. **Mr. Jenie** (Indonesia) said that his Government adhered to the "one-China" policy and recognized the Government of the People's Republic of China as the only legitimate representatives of China in the United Nations. Since 1993, the General Assembly had consistently rejected attempts to revisit the issue of China's representation in the United Nations, the matter having been definitively resolved in resolution 2758 (XXVI). The inclusion of the proposed item was therefore unacceptable.

25. **Mr. Adamia** (Georgia) voiced his delegation's opposition to the inclusion of the item. The General Assembly's decision on the matter was already contained in its resolution 2758 (XXVI), which his delegation supported. The issue of the Republic of China on Taiwan was an internal matter to be dealt with by the People's Republic of China. Inclusion of a supplementary item would set a dangerous precedent that challenged the principles of sovereignty and territorial integrity set out in the Charter of the United Nations.

26. **Mr. Musambachime** (Zambia) expressed his delegation's condolences to the Secretary-General and the families of United Nations staff members who had been killed in Baghdad on 19 August.

27. His Government recognized only one China, of which Taiwan was an integral part. The Government of the People's Republic of China was the only legitimate

Government of China recognized by the international community. That had been affirmed by the General Assembly in its resolution 2758 (XXVI) of 25 October 1971, which must be respected. His delegation therefore opposed inclusion of item 166 in the agenda of the fifty-eighth session.

28. **Mr. Guterres** (Timor-Leste) said that his country had established diplomatic ties with the People's Republic of China on its very first day of independence. The two countries had developed very fruitful and friendly relations; to further strengthen their cooperation, the Prime Minister of Timor-Leste was currently on an official visit to the People's Republic of China. His Government continued to support the "one-China" policy and did not support the inclusion of the proposed item.

29. **Mr. Severin** (Saint Lucia) said that resolution 2758 (XXVI) conferred legitimacy of representation in the Organization on the People's Republic of China. His delegation hoped that, in the wider interest of prosperity and security, the people of the Republic of China on Taiwan and the People's Republic of China would rediscover the bonds of brotherhood which had made China a great nation. It was vital to work towards a "one-China" policy rather than fuel the hostilities that characterized the relations between those two peoples at present.

30. Year after year since 1993, the question of the Republic of China on Taiwan had been raised in the General Assembly and, year after year, the majority of Member States had rejected its inclusion. His delegation therefore reiterated its support for the "one-China" policy and its opposition to the inclusion of agenda item 166.

31. **Mr. Sevilla Somoza** (Nicaragua) speaking as a non-member sponsor, said that his delegation supported the statement made by the representative of Gambia on the inclusion of item 166 in the agenda. It was well known that the Republic of China on Taiwan was an independent and legitimately constituted sovereign State with a defined territory which included Taiwan, and the islands of Penghu, Kinmen and Matsu. It had a population of 23 million inhabitants, who claimed Taiwanese nationality, and a democratically elected Government responsible for all State functions, the maintenance of order and internal security and the fulfilment of external obligations. Taiwan maintained diplomatic relations with 26 States Members of the United Nations and abided by the rules of international law.

32. The People's Republic of China on Taiwan were seeking the right to be represented in the United Nations, a right enjoyed by other peoples of the world, in keeping with the principle of universality enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations. In an era of globalization, its admission would be beneficial not only to the people of Taiwan but also to United Nations efforts to maintain international peace and security, counter-terrorism and arms trafficking, preserve the environment, eradicate poverty, protect intellectual property and provide humanitarian assistance. The international community should treat the request for membership by the Republic of China on Taiwan as it would the request of any other State that fulfilled the requirements set out in the Charter of the United Nations. The United Nations could not claim to uphold the principle of universality without admitting the Republic of China on Taiwan.

33. **Mr. Moungara-Moussotsi** (Gabon) said that, in adopting resolution 2758 (XXVI) by an overwhelming majority, the international community had unequivocally resolved the question of the representation of China on the United Nations from a legal, political and procedural standpoint. His delegation strongly supported the "one-China" policy and believed that admission of the Republic of China on Taiwan was a non-issue. It was therefore opposed to inclusion of the agenda item.

34. **Mr. Shiweva** (Namibia) said that to include the item was to reopen a question which the General Assembly had resolved decades earlier with the adoption of resolution 2758 (XXVI). His delegation fully supported the statement by the representative of China. The question of the Republic of China on Taiwan was an internal matter to be decided by the Government and people of the People's Republic of China. His delegation supported the "one-China" policy and opposed inclusion of the item.

35. **Mr. Sambath** (Cambodia) said that inclusion of the item would diminish the significance of the adoption of General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI) 32 years earlier, and undermine the Organization's credibility. His delegation reiterated its support of the "one-China" policy and opposed inclusion of item 166.

36. **Mr. Requeijo Gual** (Cuba) said that the request for inclusion of the item had been rejected by the vast

majority of States every year since 1993. The proposal was not consistent with the relevant resolutions adopted by the General Assembly, including resolution 2758 (XXVI), which provided a political, legal and procedural solution that was both just and definitive. Thirty-two years earlier, the representatives of Taiwan had been expelled from the United Nations and all its associated organizations. Cuba's position remained unchanged. There was only one China, and the letter and spirit of resolution 2758 (XXVI) must be upheld. His delegation therefore opposed inclusion of the item.

37. **Mr. Gansukh** (Mongolia) said that it was well known that the lawful rights of the People's Republic of China had been restored by General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI), which had settled the question of the representation of the Chinese people and Government in the United Nations. The inclusion of the proposed item would be contrary to the decision taken by the General Assembly in 1971. At its previous session, the General Committee had not seen fit to include the item and there was no compelling reason for it to be included in the agenda of the current session.

38. **Mr. Motoc** (Romania) said that his delegation shared the view of the majority of delegations that the proposal did not reflect the letter and spirit of resolution 2758 (XXVI), which provided a political, legal and procedural solution to China's representation in the United Nations. His delegation's position was consistent with the principles and purposes of the United Nations laid down in its Charter, beginning with the basic principle of universality. His Government supported China's sovereignty and territorial integrity. Romania's position had been reiterated most recently in a joint statement issued in August on the occasion of a State visit by its President to the People's Republic of China.

39. **Mr. Aliyev** (Azerbaijan) reiterated his delegation's full and unequivocal commitment to the norms and principles of international law, in particular the inviolability of the sovereignty, political independence and territorial integrity of States. Azerbaijan was committed to the "one-China" principle and to the decision reflected in General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI) resolving the political, legal and procedural aspects of China's representation in the United Nations. Taiwan was a part of China and the question of Taiwan was purely an internal matter. As a universal intergovernmental organization consisting solely of internationally recognized sovereign States, the United Nations could not consider representation of separate provinces or regions. His delegation was strongly opposed to inclusion of the proposed item.

40. **Mr. Rakotozafy** (Madagascar) expressed his delegation's opposition to the inclusion of item 166. It recognized only one indivisible China, the People's Republic of China, with which it maintained friendly relations of cooperation. Resolution 2758 (XXVI) had definitively settled all aspects of the question of China's representation in the United Nations.

41. **Mr. Diallo** (Mauritania) said that his delegation was opposed to the inclusion of agenda item 166. There was only one China, which was represented by the Government of the People's Republic of China.

42. **Mr. Thomson** (United Kingdom) said that his delegation's position on the status of the Republic of China on Taiwan had not changed. It continued to welcome the development of democracy in the Republic of China on Taiwan and looked to the people on both sides of the Taiwan Strait to resolve their differences peacefully.

43. **Mr. Florent** (France) reiterated his delegation's unwavering position, expressed in previous years, on the importance of a peaceful dialogue between the parties on either side of the Taiwan Strait.

44. **Mr. Bonavia** (Malta) said that, on previous occasions, his delegation had indicated that resolution 2758 (XXVI) dealt adequately and comprehensively with the issue of China's representation in the United Nations. He confirmed his delegation's position in that regard. The course of action proposed in the explanatory memorandum (A/58/197, annex I) was contrary to the peaceful solution of the question of Taiwan in keeping with the "one-China" policy, which provided the best basis for resolving the matter amicably. Therefore, his delegation could not support the request for the inclusion of a supplementary item.

45. **Ms. Critchlow** (Guyana) said that, in keeping with the purposes and principles of the United Nations and the provisions of resolution 2758 (XXVI), her Government supported the "one-China" policy and the territorial integrity of China. It recognized the Government of the People's Republic of China as the only legitimate representative of China to the United Nations and considered Taiwan to be an integral part of China. Guyana opposed inclusion of the item.

46. **Mr. Vengesa** (Zimbabwe) said that his delegation fully supported the "one-China" policy and was firmly opposed to any attempt to undermine the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the People's Republic of China. As a province of the People's Republic of China, Taiwan should not enjoy separate representation in the United Nations.

47. **Ms. Ataeva** (Turkmenistan) said that her Government respected the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the People's Republic of China. The question of Taiwan's representation in the United Nations had been settled in 1971 with the adoption of General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI). The inclusion of the proposed item would run counter to the resolution and the principles of the Charter, and her delegation could not therefore support it.

48. **Mr. Toktomushev** (Kyrgyzstan) said that his delegation, like many others, strongly supported the statement made by the representative of China. How long would the General Committee continue to waste its time by discussing an item that had no prospect of ever being included? Kyrgyzstan recognized only one China, a great nation which deserved the respect of the United Nations family, and was opposed to including the item.

49. **Mr. Mamadjanov** (Uzbekistan) said that, in keeping with the purposes and principles of the United Nations, the People's Republic of China was the only legitimate representative of China in the Organization. His delegation was therefore opposed to including a supplementary item.

50. **Mr. van den Berg** (Netherlands) said that his delegation fully supported the "one-China" policy and was opposed to including item 166.

51. **Mr. Ekua Avomo** (Equatorial Guinea) said that there were no grounds to rescind General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI), which had unequivocally and definitively settled the question of China's representation in the United Nations. Inclusion of a supplementary agenda item would violate the fundamental principles of the United Nations, including non-interference in the internal affairs of States, sovereignty and territorial integrity, and would be contrary to United Nations resolutions and decisions. For more than a decade, his delegation had been expressing its support for the People's Republic of China, the only legitimate representative of China to the United Nations, and its belief that the question of Taiwan was an internal matter to be decided by the People's Republic of China. It opposed inclusion of the item.

52. **Mr. Moniz** (Cape Verde) said that his delegation shared the view that since General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI) unequivocally recognized the People's Republic of China as the only legitimate representative of China to the United Nations, the question of Taiwan's representation had been definitively settled. His delegation opposed inclusion of a supplementary item.

53. **Mr. Meléndez-Barahona** (El Salvador) said that the Republic of China on Taiwan was a territory which had developed separately from mainland China and had a population of 23 million inhabitants. Its Government had adopted an independent political process, established its own institutions and become the only authority exercising jurisdiction over the territory and adjacent islands and their inhabitants, who recognized it as their legitimate representative at home and abroad. Although the Republic of China on Taiwan had all the characteristics of a State, including recognition by and diplomatic relations with other sovereign States Members of the United Nations, it was in the exceptional situation of being isolated and denied participation in the international system. Its exclusion constituted a violation of the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, in particular, the right to dignity and the right to be represented and participate in the United Nations system on an equal footing with other members of the international community in accordance with the principle of universality.

54. Just as other peoples had exercised the right to decide their own future and join the United Nations system, the inhabitants of the Republic of China on Taiwan had the right to self-determination, and to decide their own status. His delegation therefore believed that it was the responsibility and obligation of the United Nations to reconsider the case of the Republic of China on Taiwan and restore its right to participate in the Organization if its 23 million inhabitants so desired.

55. **Mr. Alexandre** (Haiti) said that, in the plenary Assembly of the previous session, his delegation had reaffirmed its commitment to the purposes and principles of the United Nations, in particular the maintenance of international peace and security. It

therefore supported the promotion of a peaceful dialogue between the peoples on both sides of the Taiwan Strait and encouraged them to pursue understanding and negotiation in order to avoid the kind of conflict that all too often tore apart the socio-economic fabric of societies and destabilized continents and regions.

56. **Mr. Beyendeza** (Uganda) said that the question of China's representation had been resolved with the adoption of General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI) in 1971. That resolution clearly stated that the People's Republic of China was the only representative of the Chinese people. Uganda supported the "one-China" policy and opposed the inclusion of a supplementary item.

57. **Mr. Egledi** (Libyan Arab Jamahiriya) expressed his support for the territorial integrity of the People's Republic of China and the principle of non-interference in the internal affairs of Member States. The question of China's representation in the United Nations had already been resolved by General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI). The General Committee had decided against including the issue in question in the agenda of the General Assembly in previous years, and he saw no reason to change that precedent. He was therefore opposed to the inclusion of the proposed item in the agenda.

58. **Mr. Zinsou** (Benin) said that Benin and the People's Republic of China had enjoyed cooperative relations in a number of areas for several decades and added that the positive and effective contribution of the People's Republic of China to the work of the United Nations also merited respect. His delegation considered that the question of the representation of China in the United Nations had already been settled by General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI): the People's Republic of China was the sole legitimate representative of China. It was not therefore appropriate to include the proposed item in the agenda.

59. **Mr. Aboud** (Comoros) said that his delegation, like the majority of those present, supported the "one-China" policy and was therefore opposed to the inclusion of item 166 in the agenda.

60. **Mr. Khalid** (Pakistan) said that it was futile to indulge in discussions on a question which had already been settled in legal, political and procedural terms by General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI), which recognized the People's Republic of China as the only legitimate representative of China to the United Nations. Since the adoption of that resolution, there had been no change in the relevant political circumstances or the provisions of the Charter, and no amount of debate could challenge the indisputable fact that Taiwan was an inalienable part of the People's Republic of China. Any attempt to reopen the question of the representation of China would constitute not only a violation of the Charter and the purposes of the resolution but would also represent a brazen challenge to the widely recognized "one-China" principle and amount to interference in the internal affairs of a Member State. His delegation therefore strongly opposed the inclusion of item 166 in the agenda.

61. *The Committee decided not to recommend the inclusion of item 166 in the agenda of the fifty-eighth session.*

62. *Mr. Aliyev (Azerbaijan), Mr. Taranda (Belarus), Mr. Zinsou (Benin), Mr. Santiago (Brazil), Mr. Sambath (Cambodia), Mr. Aboud (Comoros), Mr. Requeijo Gual (Cuba), Mr. Villanueva (Dominican Republic), Mr. Meléndez-Barahona (El Salvador), Mr. Moungara-Moussotsi (Gabon), Mr. Adamia (Georgia), Ms. Kartali-Papadopoulou (Greece), Mr. Stanislaus (Grenada), Mr. Briz Gutiérrez (Guatemala), Ms. Critchlow (Guyana), Mr. Jenie (Indonesia), Mr. Toktomushev (Kyrgyzstan), Mr. Diab (Lebanon), Ms. Moteetee (Lesotho), Mr. Egledi (Libyan Arab Jamahiriya), Mr. Bonavia (Malta), Mr. Diallo (Mauritania), Mr. Gansukh (Mongolia), Mr. Shiweva (Namibia), Mr. Sevilla Somoza (Nicaragua), Mr. Ononye (Nigeria), Mr. Khalid (Pakistan), Ms. Morgan-Moss (Panama), Mr. Cujba (Republic of Moldova), Mr. Motoc (Romania), Mr. Richardson (Saint Kitts and Nevis), Ms. Ferrari (Saint Vincent and the Grenadines), Mr. Davies (Sierra Leone), Mr. Guterres (Timor-Leste), Mr. Koubaa (Tunisia), Mr. Sopoaga (Tuvalu), Mr. Beyendeza (Uganda), Mr. Kulyk (Ukraine), Ms. Mulamula (United Republic of Tanzania), Mr. Mamadjanov (Uzbekistan), Mr. Musambachime (Zambia) and Mr. Vengesa (Zimbabwe) withdrew.*

Item 167

63. **The Chairman** said that the inclusion of item 167 had been proposed by Georgia (A/58/231). The representative of Georgia had asked to address the Committee in accordance with rule 43 of the rules of procedure.

64. *At the invitation of the Chairman, Mr. Adamia (Georgia) took a place at the Committee table.*

65. **Mr. Adamia** (Georgia), speaking on behalf of the Georgia, Uzbekistan, Ukraine, Azerbaijan and Moldova Group (GUUAM), requested the inclusion of item 167 in the agenda. GUUAM had been founded on 10 October 1997, with a view to developing quadripartite cooperation between Azerbaijan, Georgia, the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine in order to strengthen stability and security in Europe. Uzbekistan had joined the Group in 1999. In 2001, the Presidents of the GUUAM member States had signed the Yalta GUUAM Charter (A/55/992), which defined the Group's main objectives, namely, the promotion of social and economic development, the strengthening and expansion of trade and economic links, the strengthening of regional security and combating international terrorism, organized crime and drug trafficking.

66. The GUUAM Charter also set out the Group's interest in developing mutually beneficial cooperation with third countries and international organizations. Therefore, granting GUUAM observer status in the General Assembly would allow it to participate in a broader spectrum of activities of concern and importance to the United Nations.

67. *The Committee decided to recommend that the General Assembly should include item 167 in the agenda of the fifty-eighth session.*

68. *Mr. Adamia (Georgia) withdrew.*

Item 168

69. **The Chairman** said that the inclusion of item 168 had been proposed by Kenya, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania (A/58/232). The representative of Uganda had asked to address the Committee in accordance with rule 43 of the rules of procedure.

70. *At the invitation of the Chairman, Mr. Beyendeza (Uganda) took a place at the Committee table.*

71. **Mr. Beyendeza** (Uganda), speaking on behalf of Kenya and the United Republic of Tanzania, requested the inclusion of item 168 in the agenda. He pointed out that the main purposes of the East African Community were consistent with those of the United Nations as enshrined in its Charter. He strongly believed that it was vital to establish and consolidate links between the East African Community and the United Nations and, in that respect, sought formal accreditation for the organization through the granting of observer status in the General Assembly.

72. *The Committee decided to recommend that the General Assembly should include item 168 in the agenda of the fifty-eighth session.*

73. *Mr. Beyendeza (Uganda) withdrew.*

74. **Mr. van den Berg** (Netherlands) said he wished to make a suggestion that would, in his view, make it possible to better link the outcome of the general debate to the subsequent deliberations of the General Assembly. He felt that the current year's general debate would be particularly significant: an unprecedented number of heads of State or Government were due to participate, and consideration would be given to a number of extremely pertinent reports of the Secretary-General. Consequently, in the interests of transparency and greater efficiency, he urged the Chairman to indicate to the members of the Committee the specific agenda items under which the important issues arising from the general debate should be addressed.

75. **The Chairman** took note of the suggestion made by the representative of the Netherlands.

Section V: Allocation of items

Paragraphs 48 and 49

76. **The Chairman** drew attention to the information contained in paragraphs 48 and 49 of the memorandum by the Secretary-General (A/BUR/58/1 and Add.1 and Corr.1), which stated that the allocation of items was based on the pattern adopted by the General Assembly for those items in previous years. The Secretary-General wished to draw the Committee's attention to the fact that any request by an organization for the granting of observer status in the General Assembly would be considered in plenary session after the consideration of the issue by the Sixth Committee.

77. *The Committee decided to take note of paragraphs 48 and 49 and to draw the attention of the General Assembly to paragraph 49.*

Paragraph 50

78. **The Chairman** said that, in paragraph 50 of his memorandum and paragraph 4 of Addendum 1, the Secretary-General had listed items of the draft agenda

which had not been considered previously by the General Assembly. If the members of the Committee agreed, he would first request the Committee to pronounce itself on the recommendation that it should make regarding the allocation of those items recommended for inclusion in the agenda of the fifty-eighth session.

79. *It was so decided*

Item 163

80. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that item 163 should be allocated to the Fifth Committee.*

Item 165

81. *Recalling the provisions of General Assembly resolution 54/195 concerning the criteria and procedures for the granting of observer status in the General Assembly, the Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that item 165 should be allocated to the Sixth Committee.*

Item 167

82. *Recalling the provisions of General Assembly resolution 54/195 concerning the criteria and procedures for the granting of observer status in the General Assembly, the Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that item 167 should be allocated to the Sixth Committee.*

Item 168

83. *Recalling the provisions of General Assembly resolution 54/195 concerning the criteria and procedures for the granting of observer status in the General Assembly, the Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that item 168 should be allocated to the Sixth Committee.*

Paragraph 52 (item 10 of the draft agenda)

84. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the Secretary-General should make a brief presentation of his annual report as the first item in the morning prior to the opening of the general debate on Tuesday, 23 September 2003.*

Paragraph 53 (item 12 of the draft agenda)

85. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the various parts of the report of the Economic and Social Council should be allocated in accordance with the suggestions made by the Secretary-General in paragraph 53 of his memorandum.*

Paragraph 54 (item 19 of the draft agenda)

86. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that all chapters of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples relating to specific Territories should be referred to the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee), thereby enabling the General Assembly to deal in plenary meeting with the question of the implementation of the Declaration as a whole.*

Paragraph 55 (item 31 of the draft agenda)

87. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that item 31 should be allocated at an appropriate time during the session.*

Paragraph 56 (item 33 of the draft agenda)

88. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that, as at previous sessions, the item on the question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas) should be considered directly in plenary meeting, on the understanding that bodies and individuals having an interest in the question would be heard in the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) in conjunction with the consideration of the item in plenary meeting.*

Paragraph 57 (item 48 of the draft agenda)

89. *The Committee decided to take note of the information contained in paragraph 57 of the memorandum by the Secretary-General.*

Paragraph 58 (items 49, 119 (b) and 119 (d) of the draft agenda)

90. *The Committee decided to take note of the information contained in paragraph 58 of the memorandum by the Secretary-General.*

Paragraph 59 (item 51 of the draft agenda)

91. *The Committee decided to take note of the information contained in paragraph 59 of the memorandum by the Secretary-General.*

Item 60

92. **Mr. MacLeod** (United Kingdom) said that, in view of the importance of giving full consideration to item 60, in particular the reports of the Secretary-General requested in paragraphs 32 and 37 of General Assembly resolution 57/300, his delegation, with the full support of its partners from the European Union and elsewhere, wished to propose that item 60 should also be referred to the Fifth Committee for the sole purpose of the consideration of those reports. He also wished to know when the general debate would address the item in question.

93. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that item 60 should also be allocated to the Fifth Committee for the sole purpose of considering the two reports of the Secretary-General.*

Paragraph 60 (item 74 of the draft agenda)

94. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that, as in previous years, the relevant paragraphs of the report of the International Atomic Energy Agency should be drawn to the attention of the First Committee in connection with its consideration of item 74.*

Paragraph 61 (item 106 (b) of the draft agenda)

95. *The Committee decided to take note of the information contained in paragraph 61 of the memorandum by the Secretary-General.*

Paragraph 62 (item 112 of the draft agenda)

96. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the annual report of the Administrator of the United Nations Development Fund for Women on the operations, management and budget of the Fund should be allocated to the Second Committee for consideration under item 99 of the draft agenda.*

Paragraph 63 (item 124 of the draft agenda)

97. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the relevant intergovernmental bodies, the plenary, the Main Committees and the Economic and Social Council should include in their programme of work a review of the recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination contained in paragraph 63 of the memorandum by the Secretary-General and transmit all relevant comments to the Fifth Committee prior to its consideration of the proposed medium-term plan and its revisions, and the consideration of the recommendations contained in chapter III, section C, entitled "Evaluation", of the report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination (A/58/16).*

Paragraph 64 (item 130 of the draft agenda)

98. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that it should allocate item 130 to the Fifth Committee for its consideration, and to the Sixth Committee for the sole purpose of considering the question of an amendment to the statute of the United Nations Administrative Tribunal.*

Paragraph 65

Items proposed for consideration in plenary meeting

99. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the items proposed in the memorandum by the Secretary-General for consideration in plenary meeting, taking into account its decisions on items 23, 29 and 164 and excluding item 30, should be considered in plenary meeting.*

Items proposed for consideration by the First Committee

100. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the items proposed in the memorandum by the Secretary-General for consideration by the First Committee should be allocated to that Committee.*

Items proposed for consideration by the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

101. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the items proposed in the memorandum by the Secretary-General for consideration by the Fourth Committee, taking into account its decision on item 92, should be allocated to that Committee.*

Items proposed for consideration by the Second Committee

102. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the items proposed in the memorandum by the Secretary-General for consideration by the Second Committee should be allocated to that Committee.*

Items proposed for consideration by the Third Committee

103. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the items proposed in the memorandum by the Secretary-General for consideration by the Third Committee should be allocated to that Committee.*

Items proposed for consideration by the Fifth Committee

104. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the items proposed in the memorandum by the Secretary-General for consideration by the Fifth Committee, taking into account its decision on item 60, should be allocated to that Committee.*

Items proposed for consideration by the Sixth Committee

105. *The Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that the items proposed in the memorandum by the Secretary-General for consideration by the Sixth Committee, taking into account its decisions on items 130, 165, 167 and 168, should be allocated to that Committee.*

The meeting rose at 5.15 p.m.